GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:467
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2001
PROTECTION OF DOMESTIC VEGETABLE OIL INDUSTRY
SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK;SUNIL KHAN

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that large quantity of Vanaspati and Vegetable oils are coming into India through legal as well as illegal channels from neighbouring countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the domestic vegetable oil industry has been affected adversely due to this; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to protect the domestic vegetable oil industry from the adverse effect of such huge quantity of vegetable oil coming into the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 467, FOR ANS ON 24.8.2001, REGARDING PROTECTION OF DOMESTIC VEGETABLE OIL INDUSTRY.

(a)&b) : Import of vanaspati and vegetable oils from Nepal to India, under the preferential trading arrangements for the articles manufactured in Nepal, provided by the India-Nepal Treaty of Trade, as modified in December, 1996, has increasedfrom 68 MT tonnes in 1996-97 to 90,951 tonnes during the period April, 2000- February, 2001. No complaints have been received in Department of Commerce about the entry of vegetable oil through illegal channels from the neighbouring countries.

(c)& (d) : Representations have been received from the domestic vegetable oil industry against imports of vegetable oils from Nepal under the duty -free facility. As provided under the Treaty, initiatives have been taken to enter into consultation with His Majesty`s Government of Nepal for taking appropriate measures to protect the domestic vegetable oil industry.